

SUE W. KELLY
19TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP

Dr. Nils J. Diaz
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20006

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3219

October 20, 2005

- PLEASE REPLY TO:
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515
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- ☐ 21 OLD MAIN STREET, ROOM #107
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- ☐ ORANGE COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER
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- ☐ 2025 CROMPOND ROAD
YORKTOWN HEIGHTS, NEW YORK 10598
(914) 962-0761

Dear Chairman Diaz:

My purpose in writing is to express my serious concern with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) leadership in response to the spent fuel pool leak at the Indian Point nuclear power plant in my Congressional district.

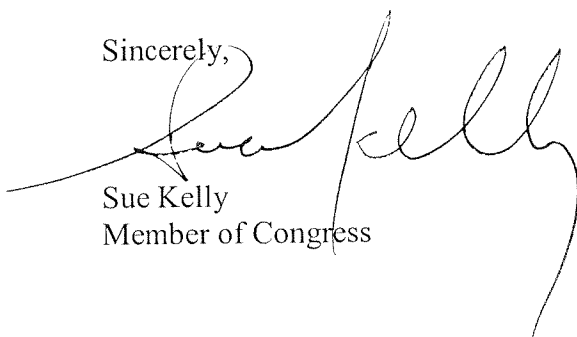
Understandably, many of us in the communities surrounding Indian Point have serious reservations about the NRC's response to this leak. From the outset, the Commission has failed to provide the prompt and definitive answers that local officials expect it to provide. When the leak was initially detected, the NRC waited three weeks before even letting local officials and the public know about it. This lax response indicates a serious disconnect between the NRC and those in the surrounding communities, and it raises questions about the effectiveness of the NRC's response to this leak.

The fact that tritium, regardless of the low levels, has been discovered in the wells surrounding Indian Point is troubling. While the NRC has refused to draw any conclusions, it is apparent to many local officials and the community that the spent fuel pool leak and the tritium water detection are interrelated.

I request that you directly brief myself and my four colleagues in our area's Congressional delegation, Representatives Nita Lowey and Eliot Engel and Senators Hillary Clinton and Charles Schumer, about the latest status of the spent fuel pool leak at Indian Point, and provide us a more definitive timeline of your investigation. I'm particularly concerned about the leak's potential effects on the Hudson River and the area's drinking water, and my constituents and I would like our overall safety concerns addressed more urgently. The time for definitive answers about this leak is past due.

I thank you in advance for your timely response.

Sincerely,



Sue Kelly
Member of Congress